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Attorney Docket No. 3800029.00028 / 1607

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Madison *et al.*
Serial No. : 09/776,191
Filed : February 2, 2001
Title : NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES ENCODING TRANSMEMBRANE SERINE
PROTEASES, THE ENCODED PROTEINS AND METHODS BASED
THEREON

Art Unit : 1652
Examiner : Yong D. Pak
Confirm. No.: 3237

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.312 AND COMMENTS ON
EXAMINER'S REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

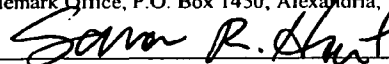
Dear Sir:

Entry of the following amendment and consideration of the following remarks respectfully are requested. This amendment is filed concurrently with the payment of the issue fee.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450.


Sara Hart